

Second observation of Common Crane *Grus grus* in Senegal

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Deuxième observation d'une Grue cendrée *Grus grus* au Sénégal. Une Grue cendrée *Grus grus* a été observée au Parc National des Oiseaux du Djoudj, Sénégal, le 22 janvier 2012. Ceci constitue la deuxième donnée sur ce site et pour le pays de cette espèce occasionnelle paléarctique, qui normalement hiverne au nord du Sahara.

On 22 January 2012 we observed an adult Common Crane *Grus grus* in Djoudj National Park, northern Senegal, on a sandy area within temporarily flooded marshes near Grand Lac (c.16°26'32"N 16°11'37"W). The bird was accompanied by two Black Crowned Cranes *Balearica pavonina* and was identified by its mainly grey plumage lacking the white wing panel and distinctive head pattern of Black Crowned Crane (Figs. 1–2). Size, lack of white elongated plumes on the head, and black neck feathers

not reaching the breast distinguished it from Demoiselle Crane *Anthropoides virgo*.

This is the second observation of Common Crane in Senegal, the first having been made at about the same locality in the previous non-breeding season, in March 2010 (Seward & Blesley 2010), which suggests that the same individual was concerned. Common Crane breeds in the Palearctic and western populations migrate as far south as the North African Mediterranean region during the non-breeding season (Bauer *et*



Figures 1–2. Common Crane *Grus grus* accompanied by two Black Crowned Cranes *Balearica pavonina*, Djoudj National Park, Senegal, 22 January 2012 (Volker Salewski)

Grue cendrée *Grus grus* accompagnée de deux Grues couronnées *Balearica pavonina*, Parc National des Oiseaux du Djoudj, Sénégal, 22 janvier 2012 (Volker Salewski)



al. 2005). In sub-Saharan West Africa it is a rare vagrant, recorded only from northern Mauritania (Baie de l'Étoile/Nouadhibou, 30–35 individuals between 20 December 1981 and 8 February 1982: Isenmann *et al.* 2010), west Niger (Mare de Kero, two, 27 February 2002: NiBDaB 2012) and north-eastern Nigeria (Hadejia wetlands and oases near the Niger border: five sightings between December and March, 1989–1991: Elgood *et al.* 1994).

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